



Potter's Guild of
British Columbia
1359 Cartwright St
Granville Island
Vancouver, BC, Canada
V6H 3R7
(604) 669-5645

NEWSLETTER

JULY 1986



EDITOR

This is our first mid-summer newsletter and we have a lot of news for you. Your editor would like to hear from potters all around B.C. as to what you would like in your newsletter. Please send me your news and ideas as soon as possible.

Items for the September newsletter should be in by August 22nd.

Anne Fleetham

July 1986

ISSN 6319 812X

Published by the Potters Guild of British Columbia, 1359 Cartwright street, Granville Island, Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7

Editor: Anne Fleetham

Mailing: J. Jorgenson, M. Garbsch, S. Kashatrya.

Contributors: Hiro Urakami, Jeanne Sarich, Oliver Hockenhull, Phyllis Argyle, Martha Melling, David Zawaduck.

Advertising rates: All ads must be pre-paid. Full page \$45; half-page \$25.; quarter-page \$15.; \$5.00 for 3 lines and \$2.00 for each additional lines.

Cover: Ceramic artist Laura Wee Lay Laq, August workshop leader (see WORKSHOPS) with one of her primitive fired works.

NOTES

Thanks to Elizabeth Reynolds for the donation of a large table which will be well used in the Guild Studio Workshop.

Canada Council to Accept Collect Calls: For general Council information write the Council, Communications Services, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5V8 or phone (613) 598-4365.

Banff Centre's Leighton Artist Colony: Reviews applications every 3 months. The colony consists of 8 studios. 2 of them for the visual arts. Info: Michael Century, The Banff Centre, P.O. Box 1020, Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0.

AUGUST 14 - 17 Craft Conference 86, U.B.C.

The Conference Committee is pleased to report that Day Passes will be available to attend the Conference for a fee of \$145 per day. Please contact Venue West Conference Management Services, #801 - 750 Jervis St., Van., V6E 2A9, or phone 681-5226.

Capilano College, offers a two year Crafts Program and a Certificate program for Craft Instructor Training. Interviews in August for classes starting in September. Contact Capilano College, 2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver, B.C., V7J 3H5 or phone 986-1911, local 390.

GALLERY



Gallery of BC Ceramics
Potters Guild of British Columbia
1359 Cartwright St. Granville Island
Vancouver, BC, Canada
(604) 689-5645 V6H 3R7

Special Event

Invitation to the 1st Anniversary Celebration

The gallery is celebrating its first anniversary with a week long invitational exhibition. All members of the Potters Guild of B.C. and all potters in B.C. are invited for the evening of Friday, August 15th, 6-9p.m.

The gallery also extends an invitation to the delegates and speakers of the Canadian Craft Conference to view the exhibition and meet the potters of British Columbia.

As a tribute to the Canadian Crafts Council for holding their conference in Vancouver, all art & craft galleries and shops on Granville Island will be open from 6-9p.m. Friday, August 15th.

Featured this summer will be:

Aug.3 - Aug. 10th	Margaret McClelland
Aug.11- Aug. 17th	Invitational Show
Aug.18- Aug. 31st	Pat Webber
Sept.1- Sept.14th	Open

...And Don't Forget The Special Night Of August 15th!!!

Hiro Urakami

REPORTS

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear Members:

I'm pleased to report that with the assistance of the Federal Government we have succeeded in hiring 3 staff until December. They are: Oliver Hockenull as the Potters Guild Administrator, Maria Zaron as Gallery Assistant and Jeanne Sarich as Studio/Workshop Co-Ordinator. All three are available to answer your questions and assist you as best they can. Some of you had an opportunity to meet them at the last General Meeting where we once again passed our New Constitution, which is now in Victoria awaiting approval. Of immediate concern for all three employees is funding for next year - applying for grants, workshop, and organizing for our annual sale. To better acquaint them with our functions and needs we would like to invite you, the members, to join us for an informal brain storming party. The new staff has been hard at work looking at our possible alternatives and would appreciate your feedback and suggestions. Please seriously consider attending this policy setting evening Aug.6, 8pm. Bring refreshments, lets make it a social.

I tend to believe that many members are still holding on to files, memorabilia, old articles, slides, photos, etc...These are invaluable to the Guild and Oliver is doing an excellent job securing, filing and archiving this material - please if you still retain any documentation pertinent to the Guild give Oliver a call. This material is essential to establish our history and to increase our profile. He is also beginning a registry of members and their works, this will not be a forgotten file, but a resource tool for the Guilds promotion, as well as a tool to promote your own work. Please send this material to Oliver, - resumes, slides, published articles on your work, etc.

Elections are coming up and I would appreciate anyone who would like to be on the board to give me a call at 685-4972. (Definitely sure some positions are available.) Another concern related to the above is the need to strengthen our regional ties, so - if there are people out there who feel they have the support of their community and want the Guild to be more responsive to their needs let me please hear from them.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT - Oliver Hockenhull

In the past few weeks I have attempted to deal with the chaos of 30 odd years of "filing undergrowth". We now have the shapings of a file system - one that will be in place when we receive the rest of the money the Government has promised us.

I am in need of your help to complete a number of projects - such as fixing up the common room - we need decent furniture, some glass enclosed shelving - display cases (a special thank you to Anne Tolmie for the donation of a nice bookcase) and maybe a throw rug of one sort or another. We also need someone to volunteer to finish the construction (and flooring) of the office space, paint the filing cabinet, build shelving, and loan art work and ceramics that we could display in these areas.

There are a number of other duties that I can think of - call me if you can volunteer some extra time for your Guild. As well contact me before bringing anything down as we will be determining policy concerning these sorts of donations and loans within the week.

You are encouraged to drop by the office to discuss with me what the Guild could be doing and will be doing to both fulfill its educational commitments and enhance its members recognition amongst the public.

Some ideas on the drawing board: A special show of the best in B.C. Ceramics. to Japan, London... The development of a video file...A slide registry of members work...a zen garden in the backyard of the building? Commissioning a tile floor for the gallery? And much more - Put your Idea here and lets move on it!

STUDIO CO-ORDINATOR REPORT - Jeanne Sarich

The feasibility study of how to use the space in the back has begun. I am looking at some model situations, the Pottery Northwest in Seattle, the Burnaby Potters Guild, the Ballard Art Centre in Washington to name a few. As well we are learning through experience what works and what doesn't! I have started a file, Written Proposals. If you have an idea of how you would like to see the space used or how YOU want to use it please put it to paper and send it to me. I am also looking at the funding possibilities and will have a full report on what projects can be adequately funded which will help a great deal when it comes time to decide what will be done.

Workshops LAURA WEE LAY LAQ Workshops

B.C. Potters Guild Invites You to Participate in a Handbuilding and Primitive Firing Workshop with Laura Wee Lay Laq

The focus of this workshop is on making pots utilizing handbuilding techniques such as pinching, coiling and slab construction, with the aid of humpmoulds, and pukis. Techniques of decoration are explored with the application of colored slip, then burnishing with a stone. Low temperature firing with sawdust is undertaken and students participate in the building and firing of the kiln.

DAY ONE, SAT. AUG. 2ND, 10am-4pm: Demonstration on various handbuilding techniques (pinching, coiling, and slab construction) with class participation. In the afternoon, demonstration of slip application and burnishing with class participation.

DAY TWO, SUN. AUG. 3RD, 10am-4pm: Continuation of practical work, with discussion on construction and firing of the sawdust fire kiln. Instruction for the gathering of fuel needed for next weeks primitive firing will also take place. There will be one week between day two and three so that the greenware pieces may be bisqued.

DAY THREE, SAT. AUG. 9TH, 9am-5pm: Construction, loading and firing of the sawdust fire kiln. The firing of this kiln will take approximately twenty-four hours. The kiln will be unloaded the following afternoon, DAY FOUR, SUN. AUG. 10th, noon-4pm, at which time a brief open discussion of the work will take place.

Ceramic artist Laura Wee Lay Laq studied at Douglas College for three years majoring in Fine Arts, attended the Vancouver School of Art (ECCAD) graduating with honors in 1977, during which time she won several grants and awards. She was an instructor for the Burnaby, Richmond and Surrey Art Centres, teaching a variety of classes in pottery and has conducted workshops for Douglas College, Simon Fraser University, and The Emily Carr College of Art. Her work has been included in several group shows, including Sensibilities, U.B.C., 1983, Hawaii Craftsmen '84, Honolulu, and has had four solo shows, Burnaby Art Gallery 1979, Art Mosaic Gallery 1979, Richmond Art Gallery 1980, and By Design, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1984.

REGISTRATION: \$50.00 (includes clay), Students should have basic pottery tools. Upon registration students will be supplied with detailed supply list. Make cheques payable to Potters Guild of B.C., 1359 Cartwright St., Granville Is. Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7. Please pre-register as registration is limited to 15 people.

NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE:

* Please drop off the registration form at the Guild's office before July 29th. You may register by phone - Jeanne Sarich, workshop-studio co-ordinator, 669-5645.

MEMBERSHIP

The past membership year ran from Sept. 1985 to June, 1986. As you may recall, our Constitution has been amended and now reflects a year that starts in January and ends in December. As well we have found it necessary to increase the membership dues as follows.

Individual.....\$20.00
Groups (2 or more)..\$30.00

Although the dues are higher, the next year will include the months of Sept. to Dec. 1986 at no additional cost. In order to offset our expenses, it would be greatly appreciated if you could forward your renewals in Sept., as usual.

Martha Melling
Membership Secretary

() Membership Application	Mail to:
() Membership Renewal	The Potters Guild of B.C.
() Change of Address	1359 Cartwright St.
	Granville Island,
	Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City & Province: _____	
Postal Code: _____	Tel: _____
I enclose my cheque/money order in the amount of _____	
\$ _____	
(Fees are \$20./yr. for individuals and \$30/yr. for groups)	

OPPORTUNITIES

THE JEAN A. CHALMERS FUND FOR THE CRAFTS

Again this year an amount of \$50,000. will be available to the Canada Council to support special projects, research and special workshops for the crafts in Canada.

These projects should contribute to the creative development of the professional craft community.

For more information on the Fund contact the Guild's Administrator or contact the Canada Council directly, (613) 237-3400, you can call collect.

Next Deadline: September 1, 1986.

Debra Sherwood, a Seattle artist, well known for her large scale figurative sculpture will be offering an intensive 3 week ceramic workshop at E.C.C.A.D. from July 28 to August 16th. Contact the College at 687-2345.

SALES & FAIRS

ARTCRAFT: Mahon Hall, Ganges, Salt Spring Island, the 19th anniversary. The show/sale will feature work by over 200 Gulf Island Artisans. June 20th till Sept. 1st. Daily from 11 am to 5 pm.

Kelowna and District Arts Council: Sept. 12 - 14, the Arts Council will host their annual Crafts Fair at the Kelowna Memorial Arena. Jurying for the show was in mid-June.

4th Annual Arts & Crafts Exposition: August 8th and 9th, Penticton and District Retirement Complex, 439 Winnipeg St., Penticton, 11am-8pm both days.

The Great Canadian Craft Festival: Vancouver, held on Nov. 20-23. Deadline: August 31st. Information: Craft Festivals Unlimited, No. 20, 14620 26 street, Edmonton, AB. T5Y 2J9.

Filberg Festival: August 1, 2, 3 and 4th at the Filberg Lodge & Park, 61 Filberg Road, Comox, Vancouver Island.

4TH Annual Cortes Island Craft & Music Fair: August 2nd.



Canadian Ceramic Wholesalers

(604) 596-9541

12138 - 86 Avenue, Surrey, BC V3W 3H7

We are your complete ceramic distributor for all your ceramic needs . . . such as the following:

Duncan Glasses, Stains, Tools, Brushes, Molds & Kilns
Hanovia Oversprakes, Metallics and Lustres
Orson Cones
Dresden Lace, Net and Molds
Colonial Porcelain
Imisco and Kemper Doll Parts
Kemper Tools
Marx, Robert Simmons, Loew Cornell Brushes

Modern Lightcraft Lamp Kits & Molds
Daisy Books
Star Sals
Skutt Kilns
Pasche Air Brush
Complete Clock Line & Accessories
Complete Electrical Lamp Parts & Accessories
We proudly represent 30 mold manufacturers

Decals: Ceramic Corner, Virma, Holland, K. Ceramic

Ask us for your NEW Dealer Package & 72 pg. Accessories Catalog

ADS

FOR SALE: An assortment of firebrick and softbricks (M-23's). I'm moving and want to sell these, so will give a good price. Make me an offer! Call 420-5147 in the evening if interested. Ask for Dave.

GREENBARN POTTERS SUPPLY LTD

Box 1235, Station "A", Surrey, B.C. V3S 2B3

888 - 3411 888 - 4247

For this 'SPECIAL' extra copy of the NEWSLETTER

TAKE YOUR CHOICE OF OUR SPECIAL DEALS!!!

1. Aug 18-30 only - Bring in this adv. and receive a 5% discount on any regularly priced purchases. AND - if you spend \$100 or more, we will give to the Potters Guild \$2 for every \$100 you spend as well as giving you your 5% discount!!!
2. Aug 18-30 only - For local deliveries to places listed on the front page of our blue price list of May 1986 we will charge you only HALF the usual freight costs. Minimum order value is \$100 for this special.

SUMMER SALE CONTINUES ON MANY TOOLS, AND SUPPLIES - COME IN AND BROWSE

Starting September 6th we will be OPEN on Saturdays 9:00 - 1:00

Phone your order - use your VISA

SUMMER HOURS

AUGUST: CLOSED AUGUST 4th; MON - FRI 9.00 - 5.00; CLOSED SATURDAYS
SEPTEMBER: CLOSED SEPT 1ST; MON - FRI 9.00 - 5.00; SATURDAYS 9 - 1
STREET ADDRESS: 9548 - 192ND STREET, SURREY

WORKSHOP REPORT

The day's workshop with Peter Stichbury for me was a confirmation of all the reasons why I chose to be a potter. I saw a quiet gentle centred soul who after many years of working with the clay was still in love with it and the lifestyle he chose. His pots made in the British art/craft tradition of Leach and Cardew were refreshingly different. They were softer, brighter, and very spontaneous. The decorations were in complete harmony with the spirit and form. The fingers of the potter were combed through the black iron sand from New Zealand beaches sprinkled on the ash glaze from indigenous trees.

Peter spoke of some of the technical problems of being a potter on a small isolated chunk of land at the bottom of the world. Since the world oil crisis the cost of firing his oil kiln has more than quadrupled and so he now fires with LPG with only the occasional oil firing for special glazes.

New Zealand at one time in the not too distant past was considered a potters heaven, like Japan. Peter said that nowadays even potters working traditionally are struggling in the competitive market with imported objects from Europe, the U.S. and the Pacific rim countries. Peter also mentioned the political boot of the U.S. is being felt in New Zealand since the courageous stand his countrymen make on the disarmament issue.

Peter talked about the potters co-operative gallery which he helped form where 14 people each take turns working one day in the gallery. Most of his sales come from this source as well as a studio sale once a year.

All the while sharing his experiences as a potter he worked the clay and made wonderful strong forms, a pitcher, a tea pot, a wine decanter, goblet, plate, bowl, casserole - all of which just seemed to appear. It was a joy to see this ease in the process of making.

The great disappointment of the lost films and slides enroute from Los Angeles did not dampen his spirit and I found myself welcoming the golden opportunity to see Peter Stichbury, the performer, the potter, the human being. At the end of the day I felt relaxed but highly motivated and wished he and his charming wife Diana, also a potter, would stay longer.

Jeanne Sarich

“

The highlight for me, was the completion of pieces thrown in the morning; tea pot, casserole, wall-bottle. Only then could I see that his work has the strong lines and form that he had expressed admiration for, particularly that of Henry Moore's sculpture. Admiring such forms is a long way from being able to produce them; he can do both.

Phyllis Argyle

”

LETTERS

Have you ever stopped to think how your finest quality English Bone China and porcelain ware is produced on a commercial scale?

Recently we took a "Connoisseurs" tour of the Royal Worcester Porcelain Works located near the Cathedral in Worcester, England.

This tour of six people lasted 2.5 hours and showed us all the processes from mixing the clay to the final touch of hand painting gold on the rims. Some interesting points to note:

1. Beet juice is used to stain porcelain (oven to table ware) in order to distinguish it from the bone china. It burns out in the bisque firing.
2. Many of the knobs of lidded dishes were in the form of birds, flowers or other decorative objects.
3. If a lid has to be fired separately (eg. if the pot it belongs to has no "gallery" and is glazed all over) the lid is fired on a firing ring which is a plate sized ring of unfired clay similar to the lid. The firing ring prevents it from becoming distorted. After firing, the rings are thrown out.

4. Casseroles have a mark in the mold that shows where the handles must be attached. Although the casseroles are molded each is started by hand and then jigged into shape, but trimmed finally by hand.

After bisquing these are hand dipped in a basic white glaze. This ware is now fired to its highest temperature. If decals are to be added, the ware is then fired again.

Rims of cups and mugs are left unglazed and fired rim to rim. The rims are finally banded with gold painted on by hand and refired at a lower temp. The amount of skilled hand work is remarkable in such a large commercial enterprise. Also the care and high standard, each piece is individually inspected under a strong lamp and marked for flaws. 20% of all finished work is disquarded, not even considered good enough to be sold in the factory second shop. With many items it is impossible for the layman to tell why the pieces are seconds.

Oven to table ware after glazing is fired in a tunnel kiln. The ware is stacked on trollies that moves constantly through the kiln at a speed so slow that one can hardly see any movement. This process takes 27 hours from entering to leaving the kiln. This section of the factory is the only one that is staffed 24 hours a day as the kiln is never allowed to cool off. The last time it did was 8 years ago.

The firing of flat ware, plates etc. is a separate operation. Each plate is stacked by hand separated by a saggar, to the height of about 6 feet and instead of the trolly being wheeled into the kiln, the kiln is wheeled over the trolly and then fired...

All figurines are hand painted and fired several times.

After the time spent in this factory, one appreciates why Royal Worcester ware is so expensive. This tour is well worth the effort, but they do like you to book ahead (phone: 0905-23221). Worcester is easily reached by train and the factory is a 10 minute walk through the town from the station.

Elizabeth Ratcliffe
Elizabeth Reynolds.

EXHIBITIONS

CLAY '86: Fraser Valley Potters Guild, Final Schedule, Friday, Aug. 15, drop off pots at Station Arts Centre, 14970 Marine, White Rock from 9:30-11:00am Jurying 11:30-6pm. The show will be set up on Sat., Aug. 16. Hiro Urakami, Director of the Gallery of B.C. Ceramics, will jury and address the Guild from 12-2pm on Sun., August 18. The opening will take place from 2-4pm.

6 X 6 X 6, Call for Entries, Second Annual National Exhibition of Small Scale Fine Crafts, Oct. 23 - Nov. 30. Deadline: August 1st, 1986, contact Cartwright Gallery, Granville Island, Marie Shaw-Rimington, Director.

Cartwright Gallery: An introduction to the early Arts and Crafts Movements and its effects on architects, craftsmen, planners and educators from 1890 through the 1920's in Vancouver. Till Sept. 14th.

Richmond Art Gallery: August 9th - Sept. 1st New Zealand Pottery, Prints and Weavings.

Gloria Nga-Hwa Yeo at the Naam Restaurant, ceramic Indonesian shadow puppets. Ends July 31st.

Works of Craft: From the Massey Collection at the Vancouver Museum, continues till August 24th.

Maria Zaron, Exhibition of Burnished Sawdust fired Pottery at the Community Arts Council of Vancouver, 837 Davie Street, Vancouver. Aug. 5 - Aug. 16. Everyone is invited to the Opening August 4th 7 - 9pm. Gallery Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10 - 4, Sat. 1 - 4.

NORTH SHORE, CLAY, FIBRE AND NATIVE ARTS: EXPO '86 ARTISTS opening August 1st, Capilano College.

NATIONAL BIENNIAL OF CERAMICS: to Sept. 14, Le Manoir de Tonnancour in Trois-Rivières, Quebec.

Jeannie Mah: along with 16 other international artists selected for the Triennale de la Porcelaine de Nyon in Switzerland to September 28th.

THEN AND NOW: A travelling show of 4 Canadian raku artists: Walter Dexter, Monique Ferron, Agnes Olive and Chris Thompson, July 22 through August at Canada House, London, England and the Museum of Applied Arts, Helsinki, Finland, January and February 1987.

Wayne Ngan: Pottery, paintings and sculpture, Downstairs Gallery, West Vancouver.

CONGRATULATIONS

Eunice and Peter Palffy on the birth of their daughter Nicole, 8 lbs 12 oz. on June 26th, 1986.

RETROSPECTIVE:
HARLAN HOUSE WORKSHOP - APRIL 25, 26, 27th
PRESENTED BY THE POTTERS GUILD OF B.C.

